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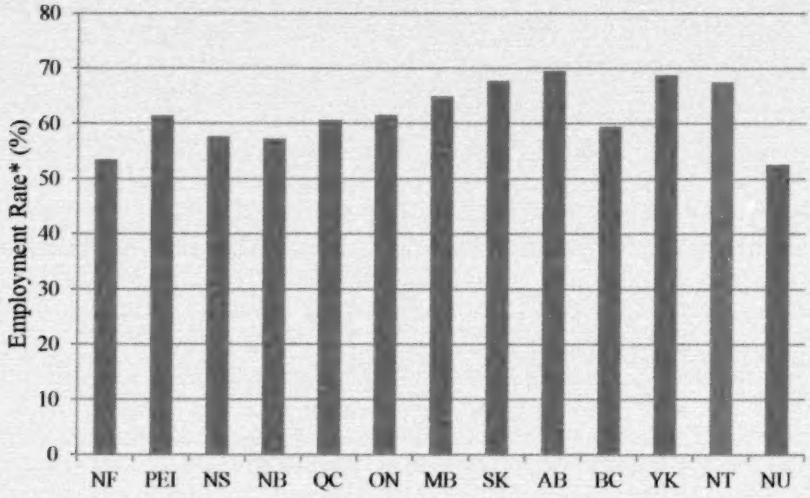
NWT Labour Force Activity
- May 2015 -

Statistics Canada estimates that in May 2015, out of 32,000 residents 15 years of age and older 21,600 persons were employed in the Northwest Territories. This represents an employment rate of 67.5% and was the fourth highest in Canada, behind Alberta, Yukon, and Saskatchewan. Nationally, Canada's employment rate was 62.0%.

Figure 1 ***Employment Rates***
Provinces & Territories, May 2015



In May 2015, the employment rate increased slightly from the previous month, but was the lowest for May since 2011. The number of employed persons was the same as in April, but lower compared to May 2014.

New entrants to the labour market increased the participation rate by a percentage point and increased the number of persons seeking work (unemployed) by 300.

Table 1 Monthly Highlights
Northwest Territories, May 2015

	May-15	Apr-15	May-14
Population	32,000	32,100	32,300
Labour Force	23,500	23,200	24,300
Employed	21,600	21,600	22,100
Unemployed	1,900	1,600	2,200
Not in Labour Force	8,500	8,800	8,000
Participation (%)	73.4	72.3	75.2
Employment (%)	67.5	67.3	68.4
Unemployment (%)	8.1	6.9	9.1

*Based on a 3-month moving average employment rate that is not seasonally adjusted.

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Web site: http://www.statsnwt.ca

Table 2 shows the number of employed persons and the employment rate by key characteristics. Employment rates in May 2015 were similar to those in April 2015.

Table 2 ***Employment Rates by Key Characteristics Northwest Territories***

	May-15		Apr-15		Mar-15	
	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)
Northwest Territories	21,600	67.5	21,600	67.3	21,700	67.4
15-24 Yrs.	2,500	41.7	2,700	44.3	2,600	42.6
25 Yrs. & Over	19,100	73.7	18,900	72.7	19,100	73.2
Males	10,600	66.3	10,800	67.1	10,800	67.1
Females	10,900	68.1	10,800	67.5	10,900	68.1
Aboriginal	7,900	52.7	7,800	52.7	7,900	52.7
Non-Aboriginal	13,600	80.0	13,900	80.3	13,800	80.2
Yellowknife	12,200	79.7	12,300	79.4	12,200	79.2
Other	9,400	56.3	9,300	56.0	9,500	56.5

Between April and May 2015, the number of employed persons remained the same.

The number of self-employed workers increased by 300, while the number of employees, declined by the same number. Similarly, employment in the goods producing sector increased by 200 persons, while the service sector declined by 200 persons.

Table 3 ***Monthly and Yearly Change in Employment by Selected Characteristics Northwest Territories, March 2015***

	May-15	Apr-15	May-14	Apr-15 to May-15 Change (persons)	May-14 to May-15
Total Employment	21,600	21,600	22,100	-	(500)
Full-time	19,000	19,000	19,600	-	(600)
Part-time	2,600	2,600	2,500	-	100
Employees	19,800	20,100	20,100	(300)	(300)
Public	9,500	9,500	8,700	-	800
Private	10,300	10,500	11,400	(200)	(1,100)
Self-employment	1,800	1,500	2,000	300	(200)
Goods Producing	3,700	3,500	3,700	200	-
Service Producing	17,900	18,100	18,400	(200)	(500)

The following table presents historical labour force activity in the Northwest Territories.

Table 4 ***Labour Force Activity***
Northwest Territories

	Population 15 & Over	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the Labour Force	Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate	Employment Rate
May-15	32,000	23,500	21,600	1,900	8,500	73.4	8.1	67.5
Apr-15	32,100	23,200	21,600	1,600	8,800	72.3	6.9	67.3
Mar-15	32,200	23,600	21,700	1,900	8,500	73.3	8.1	67.4
Feb-15	32,200	23,600	21,800	1,800	8,600	73.3	7.6	67.7
Jan-15	32,300	23,400	21,600	1,800	8,900	72.4	7.7	66.9
Dec-14	32,300	23,300	21,600	1,700	9,000	72.1	7.3	66.9
Nov-14	32,300	23,400	21,800	1,700	8,900	72.4	7.3	67.5
Oct-14	32,300	23,700	21,900	1,800	8,700	73.4	7.6	67.8
Sep-14	32,300	24,300	22,500	1,800	8,000	75.2	7.4	69.7
Aug-14	32,300	24,600	22,700	1,900	7,700	76.2	7.7	70.3
Jul-14	32,300	24,900	22,700	2,200	7,400	77.1	8.8	70.3
Jun-14	32,300	24,400	22,000	2,400	7,900	75.5	9.8	68.1
Previous Years:								
May-14	32,300	24,300	22,100	2,200	8,000	75.2	9.1	68.4
May-13	32,500	25,200	23,000	2,200	7,300	77.5	8.7	70.8
May-12	32,400	24,700	22,500	2,200	7,700	76.2	8.9	69.4
May-11	32,200	24,700	22,700	2,000	7,500	76.7	8.1	70.5
May-10	31,900	22,400	20,700	1,700	9,600	70.2	7.6	64.9
May-09	31,800	22,700	21,100	1,600	9,100	71.4	7.0	66.4
May-08	31,800	23,600	22,000	1,600	8,200	74.2	6.8	69.2
May-07	31,500	24,700	23,300	1,400	6,800	78.4	5.7	74.0
May-06	31,100	24,200	23,100	1,100	6,900	77.8	4.5	74.3
May-05	31,100	23,100	22,100	1,000	8,100	74.3	4.3	71.1

Information on the territorial labour market is a result of the extension of Statistics Canada's national labour force survey (LFS) to the Northwest Territories. Data presented for the Northwest Territories is based on three-month moving averages, with survey counts rounded to the nearest 100 persons.

For additional information on the monthly release of labour force survey results for the Northwest Territories, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at http://www.statsnwt.ca or call (867) 873-7147.

Next Release: July 10, 2015.